

## House Republican Press Release

November 23, 2005  
Press Office: 860-240-8700

### **Rep. Miller Urges Blumenthal to Probe High Cost of Home Heating Oil**



Noting that the per gallon cost of gasoline has dropped significantly over the past few weeks while heating oil prices have remained at unusually high levels, state Representative Lawrence G. Miller today urged State Attorney General Richard Blumenthal to undertake an investigation to determine why it now costs consumers more to heat their homes than it does to fill their vehicles' gas tanks.

"I became very concerned about the price of home heating oil after purchasing gasoline on Route 15 recently," Representative Miller, R-122<sup>nd</sup> District, said in a letter to Blumenthal requesting the probe. "The price of the gasoline was \$2.149 per gallon. My constituents are telling me they are paying \$2.39 per gallon for home heating oil."

"If gasoline prices have come down by almost a dollar per gallon, why hasn't the price of home heating oil declined as well? Shouldn't home heating oil prices be reduced by at least half of the reduction seen in gasoline prices?" Representative Miller wrote.

"With most weather forecasters predicting a colder winter this year than in the recent past, Shelton and Stratford residents will be burning more heating oil than usual to keep their homes warm. The spike in heating oil prices this year combined with heavier use could mean significant hardship for middle class families and elderly people on fixed incomes. We need to find out as soon as possible why heating oil costs remain at consistently high levels while gasoline prices are dropping – and take steps to bring down prices before the winter heating season is upon us," Representative Miller said.

For all of those reasons, "I am asking your office to initiate an investigation into the unusually high price of home heating oil," Representative Miller said in his letter to Blumenthal.